



**Australian
Women in
Computing**



**Newsletter
November
2006**



In this Edition: Events, Conferences, News, ACS & ACM News.

This newsletter is brought to you by the ACM-W (Association of Computing Machinery Women) and ACS-W (Australian Computer Society Women).

It is also available at www.austwic.org & www.acs.org.au/acswomen.. Copy and paste URL's in to your browser to link to articles.

Events & Conferences

AusWIT06 Participation one year on

This conference is shaping up to be a major event on the Australian WIT calendar. We have international keynotes, representatives from Industry, business and all levels of education presenting and participating.

Don't miss this great networking event with international and national speakers, government, and industry representatives. See you at - Magill Campus, University of SA. December 4 & 5.

Register on-line at <http://www.auswit.org./index.php>

Open Source Developers' Conference 2006

The Open Source Developers' Conference 2006 is running next week on Tuesday 5th (tutorials) - Friday 8th December. It's shaping up to be the biggest OSDC we've ever run! If you haven't booked your place yet, you can book at: <http://www.osdc.com.au/registration/index.html>

We encourage you to invite fellow programmers to join us at this conference. Featured languages include C, C++, .Net (and Mono), Java, Perl, PHP, Python and more. A few places are still available on most tutorials. The program is now online and can be found at:

<http://osdc2006.cgpublisher.com/program.html>

The conference will be held at: Monash University, Caulfield Campus, 900 Dandenong Road, Caulfield East, Melbourne, Victoria.

Gender, Images and Global Contexts

Gender, Images and Global Contexts brings together two successful conferences: the Christina Conference on Women's Studies, organized in Helsinki in 2003 and 2005 and the European Gender and ICT symposium, previously organized in Amsterdam (2003), Brussels (2004) and Manchester (2005).

Conference web-site: <http://www.helsinki.fi/kristiina-instituutti/conference/index.htm>

CRA-W workshop co-located with SIGCSE 2007

Women in Computer Science and Engineering face particular challenges in pursuing and maintaining academic careers at primarily undergraduate academic institutions. To help this situation, the Computing Research Association Committee on the Status of Women in Computing Research (CRA-W) will sponsor a career/mentoring workshop titled "Managing the Academic Career for Faculty Women at Undergraduate Computer Science and Engineering Institutions." The day-long workshop, to be held on Wednesday, March 7, will be co-located with the SIGCSE 2007 conference in Northern Kentucky.

The goal of the workshop is to provide critical mentoring information for women at all career levels in undergraduate teaching. The target audiences of the workshop are pre-tenure faculty and graduate students in Computer Science and Engineering who are interested in an academic career, as well as post-tenure (senior) faculty seeking to improve their teaching and mentoring skills. See the SIGCSE homepage for more information about the workshop and the application process (<http://www.cs.potsdam.edu/sigcse07/index.shtml>).

To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email Catherine Lang (clang@swin.edu.au) or Linda Batson (linda.batson@acslink.net.au)

Thank- you!



Australian Women in Computing



Newsletter
November
2006



Communities and Technologies Conference - June 2007

The 2007 Conference on Communities and Technologies may be of interest to many of you. This meeting is a forum for research on the many ways that information and communication technologies influence communities - both offline and online. It takes place from June 28-30, 2007, hosted by Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan.

There are two deadlines approaching - November 13 is the last day to submit completed papers that will be eligible for the conference proceedings, which are published by Springer. December 4th is the last day to propose a workshop or extended panel.

For more information, please see: <http://ebusiness.tc.msu.edu/cct2007/>

News

Congratulations Tracy Camp, Distinguished Scientist

ACM has named 49 members as recipients of a newly created recognition program for their contributions to both the practical and theoretical aspects of computing and information technology. ACM created this Distinguished Member category, which identifies scientists, engineers, and other members, to recognize the range of contributions these computing professionals are making to everyday life.

<http://awards.acm.org/homepage.cfm?awd=157>

IT Women in the Industry

Sex discrimination ranging from subtle to blatant is still a problem for women in the information and communications technology (ICT) industry, according to a poll of 289 female ICT professionals conducted by James Cook University researchers.

The Department of Education, Science, and Training reports that the proportion of women to men in the ICT industry has dipped from 26.65 percent to 20 percent in the past five years; the survey finds that over 10 percent of ICT women are subject to outright discrimination, while more than 50 percent claimed that understated discrimination is an offshoot of ICT culture.

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/technology/it-women-in-the-industry/2006/11/13/1163266481822.html>

Gartner Advises IT Leaders to Recognize Complementary Gender Strengths

Organizations that fail to acknowledge the value of women in the workplace are increasing the risk of project, business and professional failure, according to Gartner Inc. At the same time, the number of women in the IT profession is declining. Gartner predicts that by 2012, 40 percent of women in the IT workforce will leave traditional IT career paths and move aggressively into business, functional and research & development processes or entrepreneurial ventures.

<http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=102167>

Anita Borg Scholarship Winners

The Google 2006 Australia Anita Borg Scholarship, offered in Australia for the first time, was established to honour the legacy of Anita Borg and her efforts to encourage women to pursue careers in computer science and technology.

Scholarships of A\$5,000 were awarded to:

Dana Zhang, University of Melbourne and Elizabeth Shenton, Charles Darwin University

14 other finalists received an award of \$1000 each.

To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email Catherine Lang (clang@swin.edu.au) or Linda Batson (linda.batson@acslink.net.au)

Thank-you!



Australian Women in Computing



Newsletter
November
2006



ACS

Member Get Member Program

The ACS is running a promotion for the next 12 months encouraging ACS members to recommend and promote ACS membership to their colleagues and peers? Each time an ACS member refers a non Student member they will go in the draw for a trip for two to Europe. The new member will also go in the draw for a travel voucher worth \$1,000. There will be an additional draw for a travel voucher each for referring members and new members 6 months into the promotion.

Details are at www.acs.org.au/mgm

Entry is open to all residents of Australia except employees and immediate families of the promoter, associated companies and agencies.

2007 Victorian BEC Elections Results

The following have been elected to the 2007 Victorian Branch Executive Committee:

Officer Bearers

Chairman: Ian Dennis
Vice Chairman: Richard Hogg
Honorary Secretary: Chris Avram
Honorary Treasurer: Denis Street
Immediate Past Chairman: Wayne Moncur

Ordinary Committee Members

Simon David
David Kennedy
Stas Lukaitis
Andrew Parbury
Keyurkumar Patel
Nemir Raffoul
Abeer Sandher
Basil Vujacic
Ian Wells

National Council & Board Election Results – Congratulations New ACS-W Director Anita Prabhu!

At the ACS National Council meeting 17 & 18 November the following National Councilors and Board Directors were elected:

National Council Office Bearers

National Vice President: Kumar Parakala
National Treasurer: Dr Bob Cross

Board Directors

Prof. John Debenham - Computer Science
Prof. Steve Elliot - Information Systems
Chris Avram - Computer Science & Software Engineering
Prof. Reg Coutts - Communications Technologies

To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email Catherine Lang (clang@swin.edu.au) or Linda Batson (linda.batson@acslink.net.au)

Thank- you!



Australian Women in Computing



Newsletter
November
2006



Tom Worthington - Professional Development
Anita Prabhu - ACS-Women
Yohan Ramasundara - Young IT
Rathika Suresh - Community Affairs
Stephen Kowal - Membership Lifecycle Board
Ian Dennis - Economic & Industry Policy
Prof. Shirley Gregor - Professional Standards

ACS National Young IT Professionals Conference - April 2007

Accelerate Your Career

Want to develop the critical skills for a successful career in IT? Then join you peers from around the country to network at this challenging and inspiring two day event. You'll leave with confidence, energy and know-how to let your career soar.

Put the 19th & 20th April, 2007 in your diary now!

ACM

Schoolgirls Challenge IT Stereotypes

Worldwide IBM camps are giving girls the opportunity to explore IT career options. Exploring Interests in IT and Engineering (EXITE) camps were held in 50 locations this year. Activities included robot programming, digital music-making, and hands-on mechanical engineering.

A mentoring program that will last the rest of the year has also been established. "A lot of these girls are from schools with career counselors who are from an older generation to us, and most often have got stereotypes that women should go into careers like teaching and nursing," says Saloni Jirathaneswongse, an IBM consultant who worked at the camp in Sydney, Australia.

<http://www.computerworld.com.au/index.php?id=1604639872>

High Performance Woman

Maria Eleftheriou, a researcher at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, is the only female on her research team. She has contributed in many areas, including programming models, parallel algorithms, parallel architecture, and analyzing the performance of parallel scientific applications for the Blue Gene/L architecture.

Eleftheriou is also working in collaboration with others on large scale simulation studies of various biochemical mechanisms. Her favorite aspect of her work is the prospect of her research projects being "incorporated into applications."

<http://www.hpcwire.com/hpc/997019.html>

Gender Gap: Women's Paychecks Still Lag Men's

The job shortage in the information technology industry could worsen considerably if the earnings gap between men and women is not closed. According to Computerworld's 20th annual Salary Survey, women in IT average \$80,781 in total compensation, compared with \$91,464 for men. Female CIOs and vice presidents of IT make nearly \$10,000 less than their male counterparts, and women who are directors of IT earn an average of \$109,446 while men make \$114,045.

<http://computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=269965>

To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email Catherine Lang (clang@swin.edu.au) or Linda Batson (linda.batson@acslink.net.au)

Thank- you!



Australian Women in Computing



Newsletter
November
2006



It's a Woman's World Wide Web

Wendy Hall claims, "There is nothing traditional or geeky about me," and this is only the beginning of the way in which she shatters stereotypes in an IT world dominated by men: She is currently the head of the University of Southampton's world-class electronics and computer science department, a senior VP of the Royal Academy of Engineering, VP of the ACM, and sits on the Council for Science and Technology, which advises the prime minister; all this despite being told she didn't get her first job because of her sex, and having many of her later ideas ignored by male counterparts.

After teaching herself to program in the 1980s, Hall was attracted to the ability that computers had to improve people's lives: "I could see what could be possible once the technology developed." She launched a program called Microcosm in 1989: A database of electronic photos, documents, and recordings that could be linked to each other in different ways, depending on the user.

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg19225792.500-its-a-womans-world-wide-web.html>

Research: IT Generation Gap Overblown

Forrester Research analyst Phil Murphy says it is irresponsible for bloggers and pundits to encourage the rift between older and younger IT workers, adding that the old guard is unlikely to retire en masse as workers reach 65 years of age.

Murphy's new report, "CIOs: Avoid War Between IT's Twentysomethings and More Mature Workers," is his response to the view that Baby Boomers are on the verge of retiring, few young people are interested in tech careers, and skilled workers are harder to find.

<http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1759,2047505,00.asp>

Women in Programming Web Materials

Cindy Meyer Hanchey, Ph.D., CDE

I am quite pleased to present the updated version of "Women in Programming" web materials which were recently updated.

http://www2.okbu.edu/business/faculty/chanchey/women_in_programming

Seasons Greetings!

Wishing you all a safe and happy festive season. There will be no newsletter in December.

www.auswit.org www.acs.org.au/acswomen

To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email
Catherine Lang (clang@swin.edu.au) or Linda Batson (linda.batson@acslink.net.au)

Thank- you!